



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/468,639	12/22/1999	TOYOSHI KAWADA	1081.1084/JD	3873

21171 7590 04/26/2007
STAAS & HALSEY LLP
SUITE 700
1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20005

EXAMINER

LIANG, REGINA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

.2629

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	04/26/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/468,639	Applicant(s) KAWADA ET AL.	
	Examiner Regina Liang	Art Unit 2629	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 February 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 28-37 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 28-34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 35-37 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>2/13/07</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 2/13/07 has been entered. Claims 28-37 are pending in the application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 28-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kim et al (US 6,256,001 hereinafter Kim).

As to claim 28, Figs. 1 and 2 of Kim discloses a method for driving plasma display panel device having first and second electrodes (X, Y) spaced apart from one another, and performing a display by applying voltage pulses to the first and second electrodes (see Fig. 4), comprising, during a sustain period (sustaining discharge interval in Fig. 4):

Art Unit: 2629

applying a first pulse with positive polarity (V_s) to the first electrodes (Y electrodes) while applying a second pulse with negative polarity ($-V_k$) to the second electrode (X electrode); and

applying a third pulse with negative polarity ($-V_k$) to the first electrodes (Y electrodes) while applying a fourth pulse with positive polarity (V_s) to the second electrodes (X electrode);

wherein the third pulse ($-V_k$) is applied to the first electrodes (Y electrodes) without connecting the first electrodes to ground potential, after the first pulse being applied thereto (as shown in Fig. 4, changing the applied voltage from V_s to $-V_k$ to Y electrodes without connected the Y electrodes to ground potential 0V) and the fourth pulse (V_s) is applied to the second electrodes (X electrode) without connecting the second electrodes to the ground potential, after the second pulse being applied thereto (as shown in Fig. 4, changing the applied voltage from $-V_k$ to V_s to X electrode without connected the X electrodes to ground potential 0V).

As to claim 29, Fig. 4 of Kim shows the first and fourth pulses have a common potential (V_s) and the second and third pulses have a common potential ($-V_k$).

As to claim 30, Fig. 4 of Kim discloses the third pulse ($-V_k$) is applied to the first electrodes (Y) after connecting the first electrodes to a first potential, different from the ground potential, after the first pulse being applied thereto, and the fourth pulse (V_s) is applied to the second electrodes (X) after connecting the second electrodes to the first potential, after the second pulse being applied thereto.

As to claim 31, Fig. 4 of Kim teaches the first potential is positive polarity potential (V_s).

As to claim 32, Fig. 4 of Kim teaches the first potential is negative polarity potential ($-V_k$).

Art Unit: 2629

As to claim 33, Fig. 4 of Kim teaches the connecting the third electrodes (A electrodes) to the ground potential during the sustain period.

4. Claim 34 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Iseki (US 6,483,487).

As to claim 34, Fig. 1 of Iseki discloses a plasma display panel having first electrode (scan electrode Sc), second electrodes (sustain electrodes Su) and cells (C) and producing displays at the cells by applying voltages to the first and second electrodes, comprising:

a positive power supply (+1/2Vs); a negative power supply (-1/2Vs);

first (T25) and second (T24) transistors connected to the first electrode (Sc); and

third (T34) and fourth (T35) transistors connected to the second electrode (Su);

wherein the first (T25) and the fourth (T35) transistors are connected to the positive power supply (+1/2Vs) and the second (T24) and third (T34) transistors are connected to the negative power supply (-1/2Vs), and when applying a positive pulse to the first electrode, current flows from the positive power supply, the first transistor, the first electrode, the cells, the second electrode and the third transistor to the negative power supply (applying the positive sustain pulse to the Sc, turning on T25 and T34, the current flows from positive power supply +1/2Vs, first transistor T25, the first electrode Sc, the cell C, the second electrode Su, and the third transistor T34 to the negative power supply -1/2Vs, see col. 8, lines 31-39).

Allowable Subject Matter

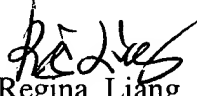
Art Unit: 2629

5. Claims 35-37 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Regina Liang whose telephone number is (571) 272-7693. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8AM to 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Hjerpe, can be reached on (571) 272-7691. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Regina Liang
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2674

4/24/07